



**December 5 - 9, 2016**  
**Second Week of Advent - LOVE**

***"This is my comfort in affliction, your promise that gives me life." ~ Psalm 119:50***

**MONDAY**

**Welcome Back Mrs. Biele!**

Our P.T.A. has their annual Christmas Shoppe this week. Thank you to our chairpersons, Mrs. Robyn Harness and Mrs. Melanie Neiderhauser and all our volunteers who are sharing their time, talent and treasure – you are greatly appreciated! If you have some time to spare this week [please sign up as a volunteer](#).

Now we just have to find a way for the children to keep their gifts a secret for the next 2 weeks!!

To help make shopping easier, please see the list of items offered by visiting our website.

Today Grades K, 1, 2, 3 and 8-2 will shop today.

**TUESDAY**

There will be play practice this morning at 8:00 for 8th grade students with speaking parts. Practice will be in the gym.

There will be Mad Science today after school for those who have pre-registered. Students will be dismissed through the gym vestibule.

Grades 5, 6 and 8-1 will visit the Christmas Shoppe today.

**WEDNESDAY – No H.U.G.S. Program – PICTURE RETAKES**

There will be play practice this morning at 8:00 for 8th grade students with speaking parts. Practice will be in the gym.

There will be Mad Science today after school for those who have pre-registered. Students will be dismissed through the gym vestibule.

Today is Picture Retake day. Any student who was absent on October 27 (don't worry, we have a list!) will sit for a photo today in addition to any student who wishes to have their photo retaken. All students must have a photo as all students will be in our school yearbook. 8th grade students will sit for their official graduation (cap & gown) photo today. Girls should wear their regular uniform and boys should wear a dress shirt and tie. 8th graders who have gym today the regular uniform shirt or dress shirt and tie can be worn over the gym uniform for the picture.

Grades PK, 4 and 7 will visit the Christmas Shoppe today.

**THURSDAY – NO SCHOOL**

Today is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, a holy day of obligation. Masses at St. Al's will be Wed. 5 PM, Thurs. 8 AM, 12 noon and 6:30 PM.

**FRIDAY – REPORT CARDS - DRESS DOWN**

First Trimester report cards will be coming home today – please check your child's backpack. Questions regarding a grade on a report card should be first directed to the teacher of the particular subject.

Please note, families who are in arrears regarding tuition, Before/After care and/or lunch payments may not receive their report cards. All students will receive an envelope; some may contain a letter explaining your tuition issues rather than the report card. Please stress to your children that they should not open the envelope. If you have a concern regarding your tuition payments, please call me as Mrs. Oliveira, our bookkeeper, is out this week. Thank you for your understanding.

Our Social Justice Group is sponsoring a \$1 dress down today with the theme of "Ugly Christmas Sweater".

### **STUDENT COUNCIL – HAT, SCARF, GLOVE, MITTEN DRIVE**

Everyone needs clothing for warmth, protection, modesty, and dignity. It is an act of love to help others obtain clothing, especially those who are not able to do this on their own. One of the corporal works of mercy is: to clothe the naked. As followers of Jesus, we are called to help the people that are not as fortunate as we are. Many people do not have the clothing they need to stay warm. Due to this, the Student Council is sponsoring a HAT, SCARF, GLOVE, AND MITTEN collection for the Catholic Charities organization. As the weather gets colder, we ask that you give anything you can to help. The items must be new or very gently used...in good condition.

This will run from Monday, December 5 until Friday, December 16.

Thank you for following in the footsteps of Jesus and helping others!

### **POLAR BEAR PLUNGE**

**BLUE TEAM 2,550 points   RED TEAM 2,650 points**

On January 8, 2017 Saint Aloysius School is once again taking the Polar Bear Plunge Challenge! We started this fundraiser many years ago with the hope of raising money, but it has grown into something more wonderful – a way to grow community! I am grateful to the Ancient Order of Hibernians (AOH) for running this event to support Catholic Education and I am hoping that all of our families can join us in some way – either as a plunger, a supporter or even just saying a prayer for our success.

This year we hope to get the AOH into the Guinness Book of Records – since the plunge this year falls on the birthday of Elvis, let's see how many Elvis impersonators we can get to take the plunge!!

We'll need to hit the \$20,000 mark this year to get me back in the ocean! CAN WE DO IT??? [Plunger registration and sponsor forms](#) can be found on our website.

### **ARTSONIA**

Support the art program at Saint Aloysius School by shopping at [Artsonia.com](http://Artsonia.com) Holiday Special. Create custom keepsakes with your child's art. Perfect for holiday gifts and stocking stuffers.

**December 12 Last Minute Stocking Stuffer Ideas** - The last sales of the year offer up some great last-minute gift ideas for stocking stuffers! It features an assortment of Artsonia's most popular products, just in time to wrap up holiday shopping.

### **2016 Holiday Shipping Deadlines**

**December 15 (Thursday)** Last Day Standard Delivery Service

**December 20 (Tuesday)** Last Day Express Delivery Service (extra charges apply)

### **YEARBOOK – DEADLINE EXTENDED**

Have you ordered your school yearbook yet?? Don't miss out, we've extended the deadline to this Friday, December 9 - order your yearbook now! [Order forms](#) can be found on our school website.

### **CHRISTMAS PROGRAMS**

Tis the season .... For Christmas programs!

Our Pre-K program will take place Tuesday, December 13th at 10:30 in the school gym. No tickets are necessary. All are welcome.

Our Kindergarten program will take place Wednesday, December 14th at 10:30 also in the school gym. No tickets are necessary. All are welcome.

This year our 8th grade students will perform "Christmas in Black and White" and students in grades 1 – 7 will be the chorus. There will be two performances in the school gym, Thursday, December 15th at 10:00 am and 7:00 pm. To help defray the cost of the production, there is a \$1 charge per ticket. An [order form](#) can be found on our school website.

Students in grades 1 through 7 should wear a white shirt (an oxford or school shirt), blue jeans (no rips or tears please) and regular school shoes to school on Wednesday, December 14 for our dress rehearsal and on Thursday, December 15 for both our 10 AM and 7 PM performances.

### **ADVENT LESSONS & CAROLS**

Please come and join us for Advent Lessons and Carols on Friday, December 16th at 6:30pm. This evening of scripture and song is a peaceful, prayerful way to focus our hearts and prepare us to celebrate the birth of Christ. All are welcomed so please bring a friend who may need some peace during the hustle and bustle of the Christmas season. Finally- be sure to bring your best Christmas cookies to share after the service! The evening will end with fellowship and fun in Gonzaga Hall.

## **P.T.A. NEWS**

**THANK YOU** to all who bought a wreath from the sale - we raised over \$1,000 for our Students and Teachers!  
Remember the Christmas Shoppe is this week and if you are able to help wrap gifts and help the children shop please sign-up online.

### **GIFT AUCTION**

A [Wish List](#) is posted to the website! No donation is too small and you can begin to send in your donations to the office anytime as well as send in any "filler" donations too (anything you may have that you no longer want that we can use to add to a basket).

Anyone willing to solicit for the Gift Auction - please come to a quick meeting Monday, December 12 after school at 3:30pm in the cafeteria. If you want to help but cannot attend, please contact the PTA at: [stalspta@staloyiusschool.com](mailto:stalspta@staloyiusschool.com). We need all the help we can get so even if you have only an hour of time that is totally fine and welcomed!

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Dining to Donate - December 2016

Mega Party - January 2017

K-5 Winter Social - February 2017

Have a great GATOR week!

Peace,  
Ms. O'Connor